

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5051
MINORITY (202) 225-5074
<https://oversight.house.gov>

December 1, 2022

Mr. Andrew Freedman
Executive Director
Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation
777 6th Street, N.W., 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Freedman:

Enclosed are post-hearing questions that have been directed to you and submitted to the official record for the hearing that was held on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, entitled “Developments in State Cannabis Laws and Bipartisan Cannabis Reforms at the Federal Level.”

To ensure a complete hearing record, please return your written response to the Subcommittee on or before December 15, 2022, including each question in full as well as the name of the Member. Your response should be addressed to the Committee office at 2157 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Please also send an electronic version of your response by email to Amy Stratton, Deputy Chief Clerk, at Amy.Stratton@mail.house.gov.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. If you need additional information or have other questions, please contact Elisa LaNier, Chief Clerk, at (202) 225-5051.

Sincerely,



Jamie Raskin
Chairman

Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Nancy Mace, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Questions for Mr. Andrew Freedman

Executive Director, Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation

Questions from Rep. Ocasio-Cortez

November 15, 2022, Hearing: “Developments in State Cannabis Laws and Bipartisan Cannabis Reforms at the Federal Level”

1. Mr. Freedman, during your opening statement at the November 15, 2022, hearing, you said that the Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation (CPEAR) consists of “regulated industries, think tanks, government associations, public safety officials, medical and mental health professionals, financial services firms, and social equity organizations,” without naming any of these organizations. Can you please state for the record which “regulated industries,” as well as the specific companies and/or trade organizations that are member organizations of CPEAR?
2. Which “social equity organizations” are represented by CPEAR?
3. The “who we are” section of CPEAR’s website seems to distinguish CPEAR’s “Center for Excellence” from the industry members it represents.¹ In fact, there is a disclaimer with the Center for Excellence that says:

Membership in the Center of Excellence by an individual issue expert does not denote endorsement by any organization. Support for cannabis legalization is not a requirement for Center of Excellence members, and neither the Center as a whole nor individual members will be expected to endorse cannabis legalization in general or support particular policy solutions.

Which of CPEAR’s policy recommendations are not supported by which Center for Excellence organizations?

4. Does CPEAR’s funding come from its Center for Excellence members or from its “regulated industry” members? If both, please provide an approximate breakdown. Does CPEAR receive funding from any tobacco, alcohol, retail, pharmaceutical, or other regulated industry companies (or trade associations) that are not publicly listed as CPEAR members?

¹ Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation, Who We Are (online at www.cpear.org/who-we-are/) (accessed Nov. 16, 2022)

December 15th, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
Chairwoman
Committee on Oversight and Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James Comer
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform

The Honorable Jamie Raskin
Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Reform
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

The Honorable Nancy Mace
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

The Honorable Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform
Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Questions for Mr. Andrew Freedman

Executive Director, Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation

Questions from Rep. Ocasio-Cortez

November 15, 2022, Hearing: “Developments in State Cannabis Laws and Bipartisan Cannabis Reforms at the Federal Level”

1. Mr. Freedman, during your opening statement at the November 15, 2022, hearing, you said that the Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation (CPEAR) consists of “regulated industries, think tanks, government associations, public safety officials, medical and mental health professionals, financial services firms, and social equity organizations,” without naming any of these organizations. Can you please state for the record which “regulated industries,” as well as the specific companies and/or trade organizations that are member organizations of CPEAR?

Thank you for this question. CPEAR regulated industry members can be found online here: [Who We Are - Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation \(cpear.org\)](https://www.cpear.org/who-we-are).

2. Which “social equity organizations” are represented by CPEAR?

Thank you for this question. CPEAR members and members of our Center of Excellence with social equity organization ties can be found online here: [Who We Are - Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation \(cpear.org\)](https://www.cpear.org/who-we-are).

Of note, our Center of Excellence, which produces CPEAR’s policy papers, is led by the former president of the Minority Cannabis Business Association. Some members of our Center of Excellence are affiliated with organizations with deep ties and ongoing advocacy for small and minority-owned businesses.

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Which of CPEAR's policy recommendations are not supported by which Center for Excellence organizations?

The Center of Excellence has final approval of all policy papers. If there is disagreement or consensus cannot be reached, we will note the disagreement. To date, we have reached consensus on all policy papers.

As noted under CPEAR's "Our Principles" section of our organization's website, "The Center of Excellence is comprised of leading experts across a range of issue areas, either directly related or adjacent to cannabis policy, and its purpose is to serve as a neutral forum where experts can engage in robust dialogue, address intersectional issues, and offer science-based justifications for public policy solutions for cannabis regulation." The "Our Principles" section of our website is available online here: [Our Principles - Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation \(cpear.org\)](https://www.cpear.org/our-principles).

4. Does CPEAR's funding come from its Center for Excellence members or from its "regulated industry" members? If both, please provide an approximate breakdown. Does CPEAR receive funding from any tobacco, alcohol, retail, pharmaceutical, or other regulated industry companies (or trade associations) that are not publicly listed as CPEAR members?

CPEAR is funded through membership contributions, and not through its Center of Excellence members, who provide in-kind services with the expertise and experience they bring to policy creation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Andrew Freedman
Executive Director
Coalition for Cannabis Policy, Education, and Regulation (CPEAR)
777 6th Street N.W., 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001